

ductive health problems. Therefore, there is a need to develop a control device to clean the ambient air, both indoors and outdoors. To do this, an experiment was conducted using adsorbents, activated alumina, and activated carbon. The results were as follows: after including the activated carbon, the effectiveness of cleaning the polluted air with organic solvents was 91.9% for EAC, 99.6% for IPA, and 99.98% for MEK. For the activated alumina, it was 93.2% effective for MEK, 92% for IPA, and 93.2% for EAC. **Conclusion:** The results showed that both adsorbent tubes were effective in reducing concentrations of solvent fumes. Environmental damage from solvents in factories can be reduced by using adsorbents in the ducting system as an air control device.

Keywords: adsorbents; ducting systems; factories; industrial emissions; organic solvents

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Oral Presentations—Theme 14: Psychosocial Aspects

Session 1: Prevention

Chairs: Gloria Leon; Carol Amaratunga

Children at Risk

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Helping children who are victims of violence is a challenge for health providers. Children who have had violent experiences are prone to develop intense or immediate personality disorders. It is possible for those who use the appropriate techniques for handling such situations to provide these children with effective help.

The aim of psychosocial support is to promote mental health and human rights protection with strategies that contain and increase the existing psychosocial protection factors.

Achieving an understanding of traumatic situations depends not only on accurate and on-the-spot scientific work, but also on the child's experience, resilience, and capacity for tolerance to frustration, complementary series, and the current environment.

When children are encouraged to participate in puppet plays, they may be able to deal with their own tragedy and overcome their own suffering. Additionally, cultural understanding of the situation and the child's feeling are needed in order to provide assistance. This may be achieved through the use of local songs and children's stories.

Both the child and patient receiving bio-psychosocial help and the healthcare provider should both be part of the endeavour to overcome the impact of violence.

Keywords: children; mental health; personality disorders; psychosocial stress; violence

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The Israel Trauma Coalition (ITC): Turning Distress and Despair into Hope—Cooperation and Preparedness in the Face of Trauma

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The Israel Trauma Coalition (ITC) was founded in 2002, in partnership with the United Jewish Federation of New York. The ITC is a collaborative network, including >50 trauma service providers/organizations, key government ministries, and funding bodies. The ITC and its partners are committed to the development of a continuum of trauma services, and provide direct services, training and supervision of mental health professionals/volunteers in the health, education, and welfare system, and development of trauma policy. Collective knowledge, training, and expertise have been used to develop both protocols and evidence-based data. Through collaborative efforts with specialists in both Israel and abroad, the ITC has established an integrated community preparedness model. This model was used to enhance community recovery capabilities when responding to disasters. The model was used when the ITC worked with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and local service providers in Beslan, Chechnia, Sri Lanka, Turkey and the US. The ITC has been working in Sderot since 2004, providing community resilience programs that ensure levels of knowledge, training, and networks are in place. During the disengagement from the Gaza Strip, the ITC developed partnerships between the evacuees, government ministries, and non-government organizations (NGOs). In the recent Lebanon War, 1.5 million residents north of Israel suffered significant trauma. However, four years of coalition building, cooperation, and preparedness ensured that the ITC and its partner agencies were ready to provide cutting-edge trauma care.

Keywords: community preparedness model; Israel; Israel Trauma Coalition (ITC); training; trauma care

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Reporting as a Source of Trauma after the Armavia Jet Crash in May 2006

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The aim of this presentation is to demonstrate the influence of trauma on the psychological well-being of the general population after mass media reporting following the Armavian jet crash in Sochi in May 2006.

To assist families and the public in the grieving process, the following steps were undertaken: creation of a "Hot Line" to provide psychological services for the families of the victims as well as the general population; public education; professional education; and the publication of materials dealing with grief issues.

The following manifestations of the different stages of post-traumatic stress reactions were observed: a 40th Day memorial mass was held; family members came to accept

the reality of their loss; the tragedy of the event was re-experienced; and the feelings of anger as a psychological reaction after the traumatic loss were expressed. Those families who were not able to find the remains of their loved ones had longer denial and mourning processes. News coverage consisted of daily, detailed and repetitive visual coverage of the jet crash as well as in-depth reporting of details of the private lives of the families who had lost a member or members. Data and statistical analysis of the calls to the "Hot Line" indicated that less than 10% of the calls were from the families of the victims while the remaining 90% were from the general population.

Mass media, and in most of the cases, television reporting, can have a powerful influence on the development of post-traumatic reactions, not necessarily disorders.

Keywords: airplane; Armenia; media; reporting; trauma
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Developing, Implementing, and Evaluating a Comprehensive, Statewide Disaster Mental Health Training Program

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The terrorist attacks on 11 September 2001 and the catastrophic aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf region of the United States have raised considerable concern about the country's readiness to respond and recover from disasters of a large magnitude. More recently, the growing threat of a pandemic influenza caused the federal government to strongly encourage, and in some cases mandate, a higher level of public health preparedness.

While sophisticated surveillance and detection equipment and metropolitan disaster evacuation plans are being developed, the psychological and psychosocial consequences of disasters often are overlooked or marginalized. Communities across the US are unprepared to face the significant public mental health crisis resulting from large-scale human and naturally caused events.

The state of New York has made tremendous strides in preparing mental health and spiritual providers to address myriad reactions experienced by disaster victims, their families, and relief personnel, and to provide individual and community-based resilience interventions. A statewide training curriculum and dissemination model has been developed and initiated over the past 16 months, resulting in >1,200 trained professionals to-date.

This presentation will describe the processes involved in developing a statewide disaster mental health training program with implications for other states and countries. Issues to be discussed include: (1) how to foster collaborations with state and local stakeholders to develop and sustain a training program; (2) constructing evidence-based training curricula and competencies; and (3) methods for evaluating the satisfaction and efficacy of training.

Keywords: disasters; public health; mental health; preparedness; United States

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Session 2: First Aid

Chairs: Carol Amaratunga; Gloria Leon

Psychosocial Assistance during Emergencies: The Current Situation in the Czech Republic

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With the increasing number of emergencies (floods, traffic accidents with a large number of casualties, and fires) and potential threats (terrorist attacks, natural, and industrial accidents), the need to provide psychosocial support to its citizens has grown during the last few years in the Czech Republic.

This presentation will discuss the main principles, stages, and forms of psychosocial assistance as well as the development of psychosocial assistance in the Czech Republic. This includes the systematic development of psychosocial assistance by the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, non-governmental organizations, Czech Airlines, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Medical Rescue Service. The networking of psychosocial assistance providers during large-scale emergencies, disasters, and acts of terrorism abroad, a central system of management of psychosocial assistance, and the exercises of the Integrated Rescue system also will be discussed.

This presentation also will review psychology in crisis management and the myths and realities of situations as related to the affected population and the principles of providing valid information to the public.

This discussion will conclude with the objectives for psychosocial assistance in the Czech Republic in view of new threats. Intermediate objectives include: (1) developing standards; (2) improving cooperation; (3) creating and implementing intermediate and long-term assistance-oriented policies; (4) developing psychosocial assistance systems; (5) focusing on the specifics of mass-casualty incidents and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive-related incidents; (6) creating and implementing culture-sensitive programs and policy; (7) developing cooperation with the media; and (8) creating an umbrella organization for disaster and crisis psychology.

Long-term objectives include: (1) creating and implementing a public awareness campaign; (2) creating community development; (3) working with schools; (4) enhancing international cooperation; (5) conducting research in the field of emergency situations and crisis management; and (6) making efforts to unify terminology.

Keywords: crisis management; Czech Republic; disasters; emergencies; psychosocial assistance

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Psychological First Aid

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Psychological First Aid is an intervention that has been embraced by the Red Cross movement, the Institute of